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GOVERNOR & AFTASK FORCE ON HAZARDOUS WASTE INITI. 79883

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STATE OF MARYLAND . DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYYGIENE

MEMORANDUM

Copies

Governor's Task Force on

Hazardous Waste Initiatives From William Eichbaum, Chairman Date: 12/19/83

Subject __Interim Report to Governor Regarding Task Force Activities

Enclosed is the final draft of the Interim Report of the Governor's Task Force on Hazardous Waste Initiatives which was submitted to the Governor's Office on December 16, 1983. I hope that the report reflects the changes requested by Task Force members at our December 14th meeting. I look forward to seeing each of you at our January meeting.

Best Wishes for a safe and pleasant holiday!

Enclosure

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE 201 WEST PRESTON STREET • BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

Harry Hughes, Governor

December 15, 1983

Adele Wilzack, R.N., M.S., Secretary

845D417 JAN 17 1984

The Honorable Harry R. Hughes Governor

Dear Governor Hughes:

The Governor's Task Force on Hazardous Waste Initiatives submits herewith its interim report. In accordance with the July 1983 charge which established this Task Force, we have begun to review and evaluate various policies and programs which impact on the overall management of hazardous wastes. This interim report summarizes our initial four month effort to begin to ascertain what hurdles must be overcome if the State of Maryland is to succeed in developing new programs and policies aimed especially at gradually reducing the reliance on landfills for the disposal of hazardous wastes.

During the past several months, the Task Force has held four full committee meetings. The first meeting, which convened on August 9, was primarily devoted to procedural matters. The second and third meetings focused on presentations from State hazardous waste agencies, Office of Technology Assessment, U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency, Hazardous Waste Treatment Council, State generators and facilities which handle Maryland hazardous waste. The various speakers provided the Task Force with an overview of trends, problems, and relevant activities at the State and federal levels which impact on the regulatory community.

The Task Force has also issued a Request For Proposal for a consultant. The consultant's function would be to provide technical staff support to the Task Force in the search for alternative plans and new initiatives for Maryland in the management of hazardous wastes. The consultant's analysis and recommendations will be based upon its multidisciplinary expertise and necessary reviews of the best management practices gleaned from both a national and international search of the literature. An evaluation committee has been created to review and select the best proposal submitted by the various consulting firms in response to the solicitation. Thus far, the evaluation committee has received and reviewed ten proposals. The final selection for the consultant shall be completed by January, 1984.

The Task Force created three subcommittees to carry out its substantive work. These subcommittees are:

 Subcommittee on Innovative Measures to Recover orr Treat Hazardous Waste

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- Subcommittee on Regulatory and Siting Improvements
- Subcommittee on Improved Communication and Public
 Participation

The Subcommittees presented draft interim reports to the Task Force at the November meeting. The following sections reflect the concerns and resulting recommendations of the three standing subcommittees.

The Governor's Task Force wishes to express its appreciation to the individuals, organizations, and Government representatives that assisted the Task Force in its studies during this interim period.

Respectfully submitted,

William Eichbaum, Chairman Governor's Task Force on Hazardous Waste Initiatives

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Patricia Mueller **

Task Force Staff

Tony E. Fulton, Coordinator

Ronald Nelson, Resource Staff

Bill Sloan, Resource Staff

- * Appointed to fill vacancy
- ** Appointment expanded the Task Force Membership

INTERIM REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON HAZARDOUS WASTE INITIATIVES



DECEMBER 1983

Subcommittee on Innovative Measures to Recover or Treat Hazardous Waste

The Subcommittee on Innovative Measures to Recover or Treat
Hazardous Waste is charged with the responsibility of
developing an overall plan consisting of those policies and
programs designed to stimulate a systematic increase in the use
of reduction, recycling, recovery and treatment as alternatives
to the land burial of hazardous wastes. After several
meetings, the subcommittee was in agreement on the need for the
development of short and long-term strategies. The short-term
recommendations are intended to be implemented and/or funded at
the earliest possible time. The following were recommendations
made to the full Task Force:

Short Term Strategies

• It is recommended that the State of Maryland reinforce its active support of the Northeast Waste Exchange. This support can be augmented by an economic contribution or stipend to aid the operation. A contribution in the amount of \$10,000 would significantly assist this effort. Funds should be designated to remedy deficiencies and speed up communications. At the same time, the subcommittee believes that the Maryland Environmental Service, through the Chamber of Commerce, should campaign to

encourage greater Maryland industrial involvement with the Waste Exchange.

• The Subcommittee recommends that the Maryland Environmental Service and the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board meet with the Dean of the Engineering Services at the University of Maryland to discuss providing technical services to small industrial hazardous waste generators. This program would provide engineering assistance to the small business person in order to provide a review of processing techniques and recovery or treatment methodology which would minimize the disposal problems associated with hazardous wastes. An important part of this process would be the development of procedures for communicating with small generators. The first meeting is scheduled after the first of the year when the new Dean assumes his new tasks.

The Subcommittee anticipates funding for the first year of the program. The proposed program is expected to begin in the late spring of 1984.

• The Subcommittee recommends that the Task Force review both the existing manifest form and the proposed uniform manifest form. There was great concern expressed by the Subcommittee members, that sufficient data would be unavailable from the new form. There is also considerable evidence which shows that much of the current required data is either incorrectly entered

on the form or just omitted. This data is critical if the State is to have accurate knowledge of the wastes generated, the unmet needs, and ultimate disposition.

- The Subcommittee believes it imperative that current data be made available relating to the disposition of wastes generated in and imported to Maryland. This information does exist in manifest form and is being placed on the computer. The process is slow but is moving forward. The Subcommittee believes that the problem emanates from a lack of funds and manpower limitations within the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
- The Subcommittee strongly recommends that accommodations be made, so that the most current data can be made available to the entire Task Force at the earliest possible date.

Long Term Stretegies

Over the long-term, the Subcommittee intends to conduct an indepth analysis of five wastes classifications (inorganic solids, mixed chemical sludges, mixed chemical solids, inorganic sludges and organic solids). The Subcommittee intends to analyze all available data, define what wastes make up the particular classifications, define current disposal method, location, research other alternatives available and location, and in the case of those being landfilled, determine why other methods are not being used.

In addition to the research of all existing data, the Subcommittee has communicated with three major generators within each classification. Each of the three selected are listed as having landfilled their waste during the 81/82 year. The purpose of this inquiry was to determine other reasonable alternatives to landfilling and what the State can do to aid in using them.

Part of the alternatives analysis will involve an assessment of regional viability of certain types of recovery or treatment methods. The Subcommittee believes that it will be able to make some judgments as to what alternatives are available, what are not being used, why they are not being used, and allow for the development of new alternatives or incentives required to better meet Maryland's needs.

The analysis of data will take place over the next 3 months.

Concurrently, the Subcommittee will be reviewing data from generator responses and interviews. Based upon information obtained, the Subcommittee intends to have the Task Force consultant research particular alternative options available. The final Subcommittee product should be completed in approximately six months for review by the Task Force.

Subcommittee on Regulatory and Siting Program Improvements

The objective of the Subcommittee is to develop sensible and workable recommendations; i.e. ones that, given the present regulatory approach and structure, can be implemented and will provide enhanced protection of Maryland's public health and environment. The Subcommittee recognizes that simply exporting Maryland's wastes elsewhere is not environmentally acceptable. Encouraging, as well as requiring, Maryland industry to manage its wastes properly is recognized as an important objective.

The Subcommittee recognizes that federal and State regulatory programs are in a state of rapid evolution. Amendments to federal and State regulations are undergoing thorough revision. The Subcommittee understands that the federal program will define the regulatory "floor" but that the State has the authority to set more stringent requirements for hazardous waste and to expand the regulatory coverage of its program. This authority enables Maryland to improve hazardous waste management, where appropriate, without impeding Maryland's ability to receive federal authorization for hazardous waste management.

Listed below are the salient issues identified by the Subcommittee and proposed action:

- wastes which pose serious problems in Maryland would be regulated by the State.
- b) Degree of Hazard: The Subcommittee will review programs in other states which have implemented a degree of hazard approach; -- i.e., where low risk wastes are subject to less stringent regulations than high risk wastes -- assess the desirability of adopting such an approach in Maryland and recommend regulatory amendments, if appropriate.
- c) Hazard Per Se: The Subcommittee will assess whether an approach, which presumes that certain constituents of wastes in certain concentrations are hazardous would improve the administration of Maryland's regulatory program without undue costs to generators, and if so, recommend regulatory amendments, as required.
- d) 90-Day On-Site Storage: The Subcommittee will assess whether current regulations with respect to the temporary storage of wastes at the site of generation pose problems to generators or public health and whether more flexible time and/or quantity limitations are more desirable, and if so, will recommend regulatory amendments, as required.
- e) Small generators: The Subcommittee will address the issue of the economic impacts that may be felt by small generators upon their inclusion in the regulatory process and will recommend proposals to

mitigate such impacts, as required. The Subcommittee will also consider the enforcement problems which may arise as a result of the regulation of these generators and will make recommendations to ease this burden, if appropriate.

B. TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL PRACTICES

• There are treatment and disposal options for many hazardous wastes that are environmentally preferable to landfills, although the current cost and lack of suitable capacity, proximity and availability of these options may pose serious difficulties regarding the use of these options in the near future.

Topics to be Examined

- Promote Disposal Alternatives to Landfills: The Subcommittee will examine a variety of regulatory approaches designed to avoid the indiscriminate disposal of hazardous wastes in landfills. The Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board's Acceptance Policy, one of these approaches, will be reviewed, as will be the experience of other states which have implemented this and other approaches.
- Long-Term Management Plans: The Subcommittee will review the desirability of requiring hazardous waste generators and facilities to develop long-range hazardous waste management plans.

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C. SITE AND SITING REQUIREMENTS Problems

- Present criteria utilized by the Hazardous Waste
 Facilities Siting Board in siting a hazardous waste
 facility may be inadequate to protect against adverse impacts.
- Compensation to adjacent communities for adverse impacts resulting from the siting of a hazardous waste facility is not addressed by the Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board or the State.

Topics to be Examined

- Siting Criteria: The Subcommittee will review current criteria used by the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board, conduct a comparative study of programs in other states, and recommend additions or deletions to the criteria, as appropriate.
- Compensation: The Subcommittee will assess the need for host community compensation in those instances where the current programs result in unmitigated adverse economic impacts to communities adjacent to proposed hazardous waste facilities and where specific public functions (e.g., fire protection) need to be upgraded to properly service the facility.

D. PERMITTING, MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

Problems |

Present permitting requirements at the State and federal

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levels may be creating unnecessary delays and administrative burdens on industry.

- Present monitoring requirements may be inadequate to protect public health and natural resources.
- Present enforcement of State regulations may be inadequate due to the complexity of the regulations, inadequate funding, inadequate authority and other considerations.

Topics to be Examined

- Improved Permitting Procedures: The Subcommittee will review present permitting procedures and recommend regulatory changes which could reduce delays, redundancy of effort and administrative burdens on industry.
- Effective Monitoring: The Subcommittee will review the benefits and costs of increased monitoring efforts at hazardous waste facilities and recommend changes, as required.
- Increased Enforcement: The Subcommittee will review the present enforcement authorities and actions of the State and assess whether regulatory changes and/or increased funding would result in increased compliance by industry. Also, citizen standing to bring civil actions will be reviewed.

E. ABANDONED OR INACTIVE SITES

Problems

An unknown number of abandoned and inactive hazardous

waste sites exist in Maryland and pose an unknown risk to public health and natural resources.

- Federal Superfund money is not adequate to identify those sites, assess their impacts on public health and natural resources, and remedy the problem.
- State funding has not been appropriated to adequately address this problem.

Topics to be Examined

State Superfund

• The Subcommittee will assess the benefits and costs of establishing a State Superfund, the role of such a fund, when a site should be included in a registry of sites eligible for State Superfund monies and possible sources of Superfund funding, and will recommend legislation, as appropriate.

Subcommitte on Improved Communication and Public Participation

The Improved Communication and Public Participation

Subcommittee is charged with the responsibility of developing policies and programs which will foster improved communication and mutual understanding among government, industry, and the public over the basic questions of hazardous waste generation and disposal, and to increase the level of awareness, involvement, and participation by industry and citizens on an ongoing basis in the State's hazardous waste management programs.

It is obvious from public comments that environmental matters are a serious concern to many communities. People often feel very helpless because of the difficulty in obtaining information, and the perception that public officials do not really care about their concerns. Also, a large number of small generators have very little understanding of the regulations which may soon apply to them.

Summary

In almost all cases, it appears that the information exists.

The problem is that the information is not readily available. In order to correct this problem, the Subcommittee recommends that two approachs be taken. First, information outreach programs need to be started to present information to large numbers of people for a basic education of the public and small

generators. Second, specific information on industrial and waste facilities and on Departmental policies and interpretations of the regulations need to be readily available to any interested party in a central location. Finally, opportunities to increase understanding among the public, governmental, and industrial sectors should be provided.

The subcommittee recommends that the following steps be taken to meet general short-term goals:

Goals

Information Outreach - Short Term Goals

• INFORMATION PACKETS

Currently available materials such as fact sheets, general information bulletins, and audiovisual productions, which have been published by a variety of sources (State of Maryland, League of Women Voters, Baltimore Environmental Center, National Aquarium, etc.) should be organized and brought together in a central file. Selected publications and a list of audiovisual productions would then be sent to appropriate public agencies, community groups, libraries, etc. Distribution of these packets should generate requests from the public.

• SPEAKERS BUREAU

A list of experts who are willing to speak to interested groups on various aspects of hazardous waste generation,

treatment, recovery, disposal, or regulation should be published and distributed.

• NEWS RELEASE

The Subcommittee should develop and distribute releases pertinent to the Task Force activities, accomplishments, and specific information as deemed necessary to increase public awareness and participation in the work of the Task Force.

• SMALL GENERATOR PACKET

The Subcommittee recommends that an information packet targeted specifically for the small generator should be developed and sent to local Chambers of Commerce and to trade associations which are primarily made up of small generators (e.g., dry cleaning establishments).

• INDUSTRIAL SHOW

The Subcommittee recommends that an industrial waste handlers exhibit be organized (e.g., for the Baltimore Industrial Show during November 1984). The target audience would be any interested party, including small generators. The State of Maryland, trade associations, and treatment, recovery, and disposal facilities could set up displays and answer questions. The State's video presentations could be shown on a regular schedule, and informational lectures could be held.

• TV SPOTS

The subcommittee also recommends that thirty-second public

service announcement (PSA's) be produced around a theme.

These spots would heighten public awareness and understanding of the issues concerning hazardous waste, how it affects our lives, what responsible industry is doing, and current efforts to reduce and recycle.

• TRAVELING EXHIBITS

The Subcommittee believes that a traveling exhibit should be formed to convey the message shown on the TV Spots.

Information Outreach - Long Term Goals

• CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Subcommittee intends to contact curriculum specialists for Maryland Schools to advise us on how to establish an industrial waste generation/disposal unit in the science curriculum.

• INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS

The Subcommittee intends to recommend needed literature/reference aids/fact sheets for production and then distribution for inclusion in newsletters, etc.

• EDUCATION CENTER

The Subcommittee intends to investigate the possibility of setting up an Industrial/Hazardous Waste Education Center to be a resource center of information on industrial/hazardous wastes. The Waste Education Center would work with interested parties to initiate industrial/hazardous waste

community education and leadership programs.

• CENTRAL INFORMATION SERVICE

The Subcommittee recommends the establishment of a central information service within the Office of Environmental Programs of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene where anyone could obtain up-to-date information on a timely basis. This could be site-specific information or an update on the most current regulations or policy decisions. The Subcommittee believes that a professional-level position should be established to start this service as soon as possible. An "800" toll-free telephone number would facilitate the offering of this service. It is recognized that, because of the way files of information are spread among various units within the Office of Environmental Programs, such a person would need special training to become well versed in the inner workings of the agency. It appears that some form of indexing to the various files (i.e., a central docket file) will be necessary in order to make the information more manageable and accessible. This effort will probably require the use of microform technology, microcomputers, etc.

• The Subcommittee also believes that the basic concept of "Right to Know" legislation may yield valuable information, which should be incorporated in the service. Any such legislation proposed should be monitored to see what type of data would be required and how it could be utilized.

The Subcommittee will explore the desirability of augmenting the proposed immediate one-person information service into a larger directory and referral service to provide current information and to respond to individual requests for assistance. The objective would be to determine the needs of the requester and then to provide literature, information about waste treatment/disposal options, or referral to consultants or other experts. This service must have the ability to handle the exchange of information among industry (including small generators), government, and the general public. This service should utilize permanent, diversified, well-trained staff capable of communicating with various sectors.

The Subcommittee intends to tour the files at the Office of Environmental Programs to try to get a better understanding of their present arrangement and difficulty of use. The Subcommittee also intends to ask the consultant to be hired by the Task Force to study this problem and to make suggestions as to how the file situation may be improved.

• COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY COMMUNICATION COMMITTEES

The Subcommittee believes that direct communication between host communities and specific generators is critical to fostering a better understanding of everyone's concerns and problems, and therefore, should be encouraged.

The Subcommittee intends to study and recommend means of

implementing such communication committees in ways that will result in meaningful and substantive dialogue.

General Conclusions

The goals stated above have been assigned to various members of the Subcommittee for investigation in the next few months for ways to accomplish. Included in the investigations will be a determination of where to lodge responsibility for implementation (i.e., within the Subcommittee, within the Task Force as a whole, within the Office of Environmental Programs, or inconjunction with various outside agencies, firms, or groups).

The Subcommittee in this Interim Report has addresses a variety of goals that it feels are desirable. However, the Subcommittee realizes that it needs reactions from other members of the Task Force and from the Governor's staff in regard to establishing an underlying State policy about public participation in decisions concerning hazardous waste, in devising a strategy and a theme for accomplishing these goals, and in establishing priorities in regard to the more labor-intensive goals which would require staff and considerable budget.

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FINAL REPORT

OF THE

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE

ON

HAZARDOUS WASTE INITIATIVES





AUGUST 1984



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Appendix A - Task Force Membership

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

For the purposes of this report, the following terms have the assigned meaning:

- 1. DHMH Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- OEP Office of Environmental Programs (an office of DHMH)
- 3. WAS Waste Management Administration (an office within OEP)
- 4. MES Maryland Environmental Service
- 5. HWFSB or Board Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board
- 6. U.S. EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency
- 7. RCRA Resource Conservation and Recovery Act passed by Congress in 1976. Provides the U.S. EPA with the authority and charge to regulate the generation, transportation, and management of hazardous wastes.
- 8. Controlled Hazardous Substance or CHS Any hazardous substance that DHMH identifies as a Controlled Hazardous Substances or low-level nuclear waste. This Task Force did not deal with low-level nuclear waste. Instead, only hazardous substances and their chemical properties were considered.
- 9. Disposal Facility A facility or part of a facility at which hazardous waste is intentionally placed into or on any land or water, and at which waste will remain after closure.
- 10. Generator Any individual or group, such as private businesses or governmental bodies, whose acts or processes produce hazardous waste.
- 11. Hazardous Substance Any substance that: (1) conveys toxic, lethal, or injurious effects or which causes sublethal alterations to plant, animal, or aquatic life; (2) may be injurious to human beings; or (3) persists in the environment. A hazardous substance includes any matter identified as a "hazardous waste" by the U.S. EPA.

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For purposes of this report, "hazardous waste" is synonymous with those hazardous substances designated by DHMH as Controlled Hazardous Substances.

- 12. Hazardous Waste For the purposes of this report, hazardous wastes shall be synonymous with those hazardous substances designated by DHMH as Controlled Hazardous Substances.
- 13. Landfill A disposal facility or part of a facility where hazardous waste is placed in or on land and which is not a land treatment facility, a surface impoundment, or an injection well.
- 14. Landfill Cell A discrete volume of a hazardous waste landfill which uses a liner to provide isolation of wastes from adjacent cells or wastes. Examples of landfill cells are trenches and pits.
- 15. Management or Hazardous Waste Management The systematic control of the collection, source separation, storage, transportation, processing, treatment, recovery, and disposal of hazardous waste.
- 16. Manifest The shipping document originated and signed by the generator which describes and must accompany all wastes shipped off the generator's site to a treatment, storage, or disposal facility.
- 17. Permitted Facility Any structure, system, or geographic area that has been designated by DHMH for the treatment, storage, or disposal of Controlled Hazardous Substances. This term is synonymous with "Controlled Hazardous Substances Facility".
- 18. Storage The holding of hazardous waste for a temporary period, at the end of which the hazardous waste is treated, disposed of, or stored elsewhere.
- 19. Treatment Any method, technique, or process, including neutralization, designed to change the physical, chemical or biological character or composition of any hazardous waste so as to:
 - a. neutralize the waste;
 - b. recover energy or material resources from the waste;

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c. render the waste:

- non-hazardous or less hazardous,
- safer to transport, store, or dispose of, or
- amenable for recovery, amenable for storage, or reduced in volume.

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I. Introduction

A. Governor's Task Force on Hazardous Waste Initiatives

Although Maryland has had an active hazardous waste regulatory program for eight years, public concern over abandoned waste sites, limited public participation opportunities, and overall hazardous waste management policies in the state has been growing. In response to that concern, Governor Hughes recommended the appointment of a Task Force to develop legislative and regulatory proposals to help improve hazardous waste management in Maryland.

Task Force Charge

The Governor's Task Force on Hazardous Waste Initiatives was appointed by Governor Hughes on July 1, 1983. A list of Task Force members is included as Appendix A. The Governor gave the Task Force a specific three-fold charge:

- 1. To develop those policies and programs to stimulate a systematic increase in the use of reduction, recycling, recovery, and treatment as alternatives to the land burial of hazardous wastes;
- To assess the State's current regulatory and siting programs and develop needed improvements and innovations; and
- 3. To develop policies and programs designed to foster improved communication and mutual understanding among government, industry, and the public over the basic questions of hazardous waste generation and disposal in our society.

Task Force Structure

During the past several months, the Task Force has held nine full committee meetings. The first meeting, which convened on August 9, 1983, was primarily devoted to procedural matters. The second and third meetings focused on presentations from State hazardous waste agencies, the Office of Technology Assessment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Hazardous Waste Treatment Council, state generators and

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facilities which handle Maryland hazardous waste. The various speakers provided the Task Force with an overview of trends, problems, and relevant activities at the State and federal levels which impact on the regulatory and industrial community.

The Task Force created three subcommittees to carry out its substantive work. These subcommittees are:

- Subcommittee on Innovative Measures to Recover or Treat Hazardous Waste
- Subcommittee on Regulatory and Siting Improvements
- Subcommittee on Improved Communication and Public Participation

While the entire Task Force met monthly, the Subcommittees met frequently to consider their topics, hear testimony from appropriate participants, and formulate Subcommittee reports for consideration by the full Task Force.

The Subcommittees presented draft interim reports to the Task Force at the November 1983 meeting and final reports in June and July 1984. The following sections reflect the concerns and resulting recommendations of the three standing subcommittees as reviewed and approved by the full Task Force. The full text of the Subcommittee reports is available upon request.

B. Background Information

Legislative and Regulatory History

Hazardous waste management laws in the State date back to 1976, with the passage of the Safe Disposal of Designated Hazardous Substances Act (with amendments, now Health-Environmental Article 7-208 through 7-268). With the Act and subsequent regulations, Maryland became one of the first states to have an effective, operational hazardous waste regulatory program.

Concurrent with the passage of Maryland's Act, was the passage, by Congress, of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA). This Act, though originally containing many provisions for non-hazardous wastes, concentrated its greatest powers in the area of hazardous waste management. RCRA gave broad authority to the U.S. EPA to

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establish a national regulatory program for the control of hazardous waste generation, transportation, disposal, storage, treatment, and incineration.

The U.S. EPA developed federal hazardous waste regulations over the next several years. In 1980, the U.S. EPA promulgated federal hazardous waste regulations in roughly the format that exists today. Maryland made significant changes in its program in order to bring it in line with the federal program in 1980, and is now preparing to seek final authorization from U.S. EPA to operate the State program in lieu of the federal program.

The EPA regulates hazardous waste, while the State regulates Controlled Hazardous Substances or CHS, of which hazardous waste is but a subset. Also included as CHS are substances that are toxic; lethal or sublethal to plant, animal, or aquatic life; injurious to human beings; or persistent in the environment.

The U.S. EPA has the authority to regulate toxic substances such as PCBs under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and to deal with ground water contamination problems through the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Each of these federal regulatory programs, RCRA, TSCA and SDWA, overlaps to some degree.

Finally, the 1980 passage of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) by Congress, often referred to as the federal Superfund Act, gave the U.S. EPA the authority to require cleanup of abandoned hazardous waste sites by responsible parties. A funding mechanism was established to provide resources to EPA to clean up sites where responsible parties could not be immediately found. EPA has developed a National Priority List of 416 sites, three of which are in Maryland. The money in the federal fund will not be sufficient to address all the sites on the federal list if responsible parties cannot be found.

Two major pieces of State legislation were enacted during the Task Force's deliberations. First, SB 570, sponsored by Senator Gerald Winegrad and developed with input from Task Force members, requires, among other things, the regulation of small quantity generators of hazardous wastes (those generating more than 100 kg/month but less than 1,000 kg/month) and the listing of all sites containing controlled hazardous substances in a registry by July 1, 1985.

Second, Delegate Robert G. Kramer sponsored HB 1446 which requires generators of hazardous waste to consider the feasibility of recovering their waste and prove that the waste



has been treated to the extent practicable to either reduce its hazard or volume before receiving permission to landfill the waste in Maryland. The issues addressed in these pieces of legislation were being debated by the Task Force during the legislative session and are reflected in the Task Force's recommendations.

Current Responsibilities of State Agencies

Regulation of hazardous waste generators and treatment, storage, and disposal facilities is the responsibility of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH). The Office of Environmental Programs (OEP) within DHMH handles programs dealing with air pollution, water pollution, community health management, and solid waste. It is the Waste Management Administration (WAS)¹, within OEP, that handles solid waste programs, including hazardous waste programs. The WAS's responsibilities in the hazardous waste area include enforcement of regulations for generators, transporters, and management facilities; permitting of facilities; data collection; and inventory and cleanup of abandoned hazardous waste sites.

The Science and Health Advisory Group (SHAG) provides technical and professional resources to OEP on many subjects including hazardous waste related projects. SHAG lends its advice on matters pertaining to epidemiology, toxicology, and other health related items.

Finally, the Controlled Hazardous Substances Advisory Council reviews regulatory proposals of WAS and gives advice on appropriate methods of implementation. In fact, many of the Task Force's proposals will be discussed by the Advisory Council in preparation for rule-making and/or implementation.

Two other agencies dealing with hazardous waste are located within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Maryland Environmental Service (MES) operates as both a State agency and a non-profit utility enterprise. MES operates more than 100 water supply, wastewater treatment, and solid waste facilities for other agencies of the State, for local governments and regional agencies, and for businesses and industries throughout the state. The agency has been granted the authority to borrow money and issue bonds or notes for the

Included under OEP are both the Waste Management Administration and the Waste Management Administration. For this reason, the designations "WAS" is used for the latter, while "WAT" is used to designate the former.

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purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any one or more public projects. MES owns the Hawkins Point Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility site in the Curtis Bay industrial area.

The Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board (HWFSB) was formed in response to difficulties in siting needed hazardous waste management facilities. The Board has the authority to override local zoning requirements and other local regulations that restrict the siting of privately or publicly owned hazardous waste facilities. In addition, the Board will assess the types of facilities needed and solicit applications for those facilities. A site developer need not apply to the Board if there is no local impediment to facility development.

Current Hazardous Waste Management

Regulatory data as recent as June 1984 showed that there were 357 generators in Maryland that submitted annual reports indicating their actual waste generation for the past year. Preliminary data for 1983 shows annual generation of 265,100 tons, only a three percent increase over the amount reported for the 1981-82 reporting period. Allied Corporation accounted for over forty percent of the total waste generated 1983. Forty percent of the remainder is sent to management facilities outside of Maryland, primarily treatment or disposal facilities in Pennsylvania.

Most of the waste generated in Maryland is managed off site. A total of 71 treatment, storage, or disposal facilities are permitted in Maryland, though most of these are small on-site facilities handling small volumes of waste.

The Hawkins Point Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility has ceased accepting waste commercially due to lack of business. Many generators have chosen to send their wastes to landfills outside of Maryland. Currently, although the hazardous wastes that had been accepted commercially at Hawkins Point have been removed, MES is still responsible for collection and treatment of the leachate from the landfill, an expensive undertaking. MES is considering several options for dealing with Hawkins Point including lease or sale of the existing capacity to private interests or maintenance of the facility for possible future use. The Task Force has considered the issue and has recommended that the MES assess the economic impact of the State holding empty the capacity of Cell 40 of the landfill for five years. This option, the Task Force notes, could possibly be considered in the variety of future uses of the site.



The Waste Management Administration has released a list of 170 sites where hazardous wastes may require clean-up under the State Superfund. Preliminary investigations have begun on those sites and, by January 1, 1985, 32 of those sites will have those investigations completed. The development of this registry of sites is done in addition to the U.S. EPA's site inventory. Again, the federal priority list contains only three sites in Maryland at this time.

Conclusions

The recommendations that follow are based on careful consideration of the issues surrounding hazardous waste management by the Task Force members. During the course of developing these recommendations, however, the Task Force heard from many generators about the problem of managing industrial wastes other than hazardous wastes. It is clear that substantial quantities of non-hazardous industrial wastes are generated each year and that disposal options for those wastes are limited. The Task Force recognizes this as a significant issue and recommends that the State examine the dimensions of this problem in the near future.

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II. Innovative Measures to Recover or Treat Hazardous Wastes

TOPIC: PROMOTION OF DESIRABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- 1. Issues Maryland generators shipped, under manifest, significant quantities of waste to the Browning-Ferris Solley Road Landfill when it was operating and now send nearly as much to hazardous waste landfills in other states. Landfills pose greater long-term environmental risks than many other management techniques, but economic and institutional barriers prevent generators from using more desirable technologies.
- 2. Analysis The Task Force has determined that the most desirable hazardous waste management practices in order of decreasing preference are:

- Reduction at origin

Resource recovery through sale or reuse

- Treatment or incineration to reduce volume or hazard

- Burial

However, the Symposium conducted by the Maryland Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board in October of 1983 on hazardous waste management in Maryland concluded that alternate resource recovery and treatment technologies are rarely broadly applicable across a wide variety of manufacturing processes and waste streams. this being the case, more information on industrial processes, as well are more experimentation with innovative industrial techniques at the plant level, is necessary to implement these more desirable waste management practices.

The Task Force interviewed selected large and small generators, many of whom rely on landfills to manage the majority of their wastes. Firms knowledgeable of technology options are willing to explore the employment of alternate waste management technologies in their plants. However, the following obstacles to implementing more desirable waste management practices were often cited during the course of these interviews:

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- Information. Not all firms know about alternate options for resource recovery and treatment. Smaller firms usually are concerned with business problems and often have little understanding of technical factors affecting their businesses. This leaves little opportunity for investigation of alternative waste management options.
- Technology Deployment. Considerable information on industrial waste management is not always utilized by plants. Despite an information gap, many generators are aware of these techniques. Often facility managers utilize them only if economic and regulatory conditions are favorable.
- Economics. Generators are likely to use alternative disposal mechanisms if they improve or do not penalize process economics.
- Regulations. Current regulations deter further investigation into pilot and experimental practices at the plant and facility level.
- 3. Policy Statement Promotion of innovation in waste management and encouragement of desirable management practices is in the best interests of the State.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - The State should continue to investigate instituting or utilizing existing engineering extension services to promote the transfer and deployment of technology into industrial plants.

Maryland has already received from the University of Maryland a preliminary proposal outlining the type of assistance a Technology Extension Service could provide to generators. Cost-sharing options with industry should also be further explored. One emphasis of such a program could be assistance to small quantity generators as discussed on page 12.

The State, through the Department of Economic and Community Development in conjunction with DHMH and MES, should develop its economic incentive program to foster the most preferred waste management practices.

Any incentive package ought to have a stated cap and time limit for the program. Financial incentives for specialized pollution control equipment should not bias generators' choices from production-oriented or low-capital options. Again, special emphasis could be given to assisting small quantity generators as discussed on page 12.

The regulatory restrictions on pilot or experimental recovery or treatment units should be liberalized to promote innovations.

This would likely promote greater in-plant use of these units and improve the efficiency with which research needs are communicated from industry to the research community. If opportunities of this sort exist under federal law, they should be approached with caution in regard to potential abuse.

- The State should examine the development of an award program to recognize industries making marked strides in proper hazardous waste management and provide additional incentives to Maryland industries to manage their wastes responsibly within the confines of the law.
- Legislation should be prepared making a sixty-day listing of waste mandatory for waste generators within the State.

This listing should occur on an annual basis for consistent waste streams. The legislation should also address differences between large and small generators, as well as allow for an exception process for confidential processes.

TOPIC: REGULATORY INFORMATION COLLECTION

- 1. Issues Hazardous waste manifests are the principal means of collecting information on waste quantities and handling practices. Inaccurately completed manifests, often a result of generators misunderstanding both the instructions and the State's use of the information provided, cause delays in the information's availability and complicate regulatory actions and policy analysis. Recent improvements in data collection will be threatened later this year when the uniform national manifest becomes effective.
- 2. Analysis Inaccurately completed manifests require review by DHMH personnel. A shortage of such personnel in the past created a time lag between when the information is received and when it is available for use among regulators and the regulated community. The current time lag has shortened to approximately six months.

Further improvement in the availability and quantity of manifest data can be achieved if generators receive more extensive and comprehensible instructions on completing the manifests accurately as well as a better understanding of the role manifest data play in the State's developing overall regulatory policy. At the same time, DHMH must continue to improve the editing and computerizing of manifest data. Currently, DHMH simply does not have sufficient resources for this task.

- 3. Policy Statement Up-to-date and accurate data on waste generation is an integral part of a successful hazardous waste management program.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - The State should provide further information to generators on manifest form completion.

In conjunction with the uniform manifest provision that will take effect this year, Maryland should prepare a thorough and easily-understandable set of instructions on completing manifest forms accurately. The instructions should be oriented toward alleviating the

most frequent manifest inaccuracies. Generators should also be made aware of the way in which the State uses the manifest data.

 Manifest data management procedures should be examined and modified as necessary to provide more timely information.

Maryland should develop the generators' instruction package to reduce inaccuracies and thus the amount of editing required. Assuming manifest review and editing time is reused, procedures for preparing data for use should be streamlined to eventually cut the current lag time to thirty days or less.

III. Regulatory and Siting Improvements

TOPIC: SMALL QUANTITY GENERATORS

- 1. Issues Recent legislation directed the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to regulate all generators of hazardous waste who generate over 100 kg per month. This action will bring a large number of businesses into the regulatory system for the first time. The Task Force reviewed this pending regulatory action and made several observations:
 - a. The State has very little information on small quantity generators regarding their number and waste generation patterns.
 - b. Small quantity generators often have little knowledge of regulatory requirements or methods of compliance.
 - c. Small quantity generators often do not have the technical expertise necessary to identify options for source reduction or hazardous waste management.
 - d. Small quantity generators may find it economically difficult to comply with regulations or implement innovative approaches to waste management.
- 2. Analysis The Task Force considered several aspects of the small quantity generators issues within the context of the recent legislation requiring regulation of small quantity generators. Concern was expressed over when such generators should be brought into the system and what could be done to ease that process, such as providing information and financial assistance.

Informational, technical, and financial assistance recommendations, however, are not limited to small quantity generators. The Department of Economic and Community Development, in conjunction with the DHMH and MES, should coordinate the provision of these three forms of assistance to all generators needing such assistance.

- 3. Policy Statement Small quantity generators of hazarrdous waste in Maryland may need technical and financial assistance to comply with state and federal hazarrdous waste laws and regulations in a timely and cost-effective manner.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - The State should obtain information on small quantity generators.

The State needs to know how many small quantity generators there are, what hazardous wastes they are generating, and how they are currently handling their waste streams. This information is important for the DHMH in determining whether or not existing regulations should be modified for small quantity generators. It is also important for determining what assistance small quantity generators will need to attain compliance in a timely manner, as well as for the Department in determining the impacts on monitoring and enforcement. The DHMH should begin surveying all facilities which may be small quantity generators as soon as possible and require them to respond by the end of the summer.

- The State should examine the needs of small quantity generators to adhere to all of the regulations facing large quantity generators.

Using the information obtained as a result of first recommendation, and additional information as needed, the DHMH should thoroughly examine the need for small quantity generators to comply with all of the hazardous waste regulations faced by large quantity generators. An advisory group consisting of small quantity generators, environmental groups, and appropriate State and local agency representatives should be formed to provide significant input into this task. The existing Controlled Hazardous Substance Advisory Council should be the basis for this endeavor, but it should be augmented for this task with non-Council members so that all appropriate groups are represented. The analysis of the regulations and the decision as to which ones should

be modified or eliminated for small quantity generators should be completed by January 1, 1985, and the modifications should be formally adopted as soon as possible thereafter.

The State should provide technical assistance to small quantity generators so that they can attain compliance as effectively as possible.

The State should work with industry groups, individual firms, and other government agencies in finding "least cost" ways for firms to attain compliance. The regulations should be made comprehensible to the small quantity generators so that interpretations of what constitutes compliance can be kept uniform.

In addition, an information packet should be developed for the small quantity generator, containing information on the required notification forms, the necessary forms themselves, educational material, the applicable regulations and explanations of them. This information should be given to firms so that they have sufficient lead time to reach compliance by the specified date.

 The State and local jurisdictions should provide financial assistance to small quantity generators.

The State, through the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and the local jurisdictions, should provide financial assistance to small quantity generators for the purchase of new equipment, storage space, and/or changes in their production processes. should be geared toward assistance otherwise credit-worthy firms who will have high compliance costs relative to their ability to borrow to meet the requirements of the regulations. The State, through the DHMH and DECD, should work actively to make firms aware of available financial assistance. A financial assistance program should include "low-cost" loans and loan guarantees and should be run by the DECD. Not all of the desired assistance may be able to be supplied because of limitations imposed by existing laws. To overcome this potential problem and to emphasize the

importance of providing this assistance, legislation should be introduced in the 1985 session of the General Assembly to explicitly authorize this assistance.

- All aspects of regulating small quantity generators should go into effect on the same date, and that date should be July 1, 1985.

Current legislation brings the small quantity generators into the regulatory system on July 1, 1984, except that they are not subject to manifesting their shipments or reporting their generation of hazardous wastes until July 1, 1985. Implementation of those regulations should be delayed until July 1, 1985 so that small quantity generators have sufficient opportunity to become informed about the regulations, determine an optimal strategy for complying with the regulations, and implement that strategy. The DHMH should be prepared to grant extensions to the compliance data to firms which, through no fault of their own, cannot implement an optimal compliance strategy by July 1, 1985.

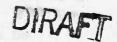
 The ninety-day limit on storage should be reviewed with regards to allowing accumulation of waste to more manageable lot sizes.

State regulations should be modified as permitted by the federal framework, and this position should be communicated to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. This could help small quantity generators avoid the relatively high costs of shipping partial loads to off-site facilities. Care should be taken in implementing this recommendation, if it is allowed, to avoid potential abuse.



TOPIC: SITING CRITERIA

- 1. Issues Because hazardous waste facilities are necessary and will have to be sited, siting criteria should ensure that hazardous waste facilities are located in a way that minimizes risks to human health and the environment and negative socioeconomic impacts on the host community.
- 2. Analysis Siting criteria can be set up in two ways, either specifying the attributes proposed sites must have or specifying attributes which would exclude sites from consideration. The Task Force analyzed both types of criteria and concluded that exclusionary criteria would address the problems of difficult facility siting because they:
 - promote certainty in the permitting process;
 - promote efficiency by reserving administrative and public resources for sites that do not have fundamental problems; and;
 - bolster public credibility in the siting process by reducing the influence of the political or economic strength of the opponents or proponents of a site.
- 3. Policy Statement There are certain areas in Maryland that should never be considered for siting of land emplacement facilities.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force recommends that the following areas, which are easilty mappable, be excluded from any consideration in the siting of land emplacement facilities:
 - coastal wetlands
 - subsurface coal mining areas
 - critical recharge areas
 - designated natural lands
 - sole source aquifers
 - watersheds for reservoirs
 - 500-year floodplains, riverine and coastal
 - areas of geologic fault



TOPIC: HOST COMMUNITY COMPENSATION

- 1. Issue The siting of a hazardous waste facility in a community is bound to have adverse effects on the community. Hazardous waste facilities provide broad societal benefits, but the adverse effects fall most heavily on the community in which it is located.
- Analysis Many of the adverse impacts of a hazardous 2. waste facility on a community can be mitigated by undertaking specific steps to eliminate or reduce those adverse effects. When adverse effects cannot be fully avoided or mitigated, compensation to the host community may be appropriate. Adverse impacts, such as physical, economic, or social impacts, could result from any number of industrial activities. Two factors should distinguish facilities for which compensation is appropriate -- those with a permanent impact on the land (i.e., landfills) and those whose siting requires negotiations with local government officials. Ideally, the community and the facility developer should determine the amount and type of compensation. Further study of this issue is necessary to answer a number of difficult questions, for example:
 - How large is the community for purposes of compensation?
 - Who should decide what compensation is appropriate?
 - What procedures should be followed?
 - How should disputes be resolved?
 - What is the State's role in strictly local disputes?
- 3. Policy Statement Communities in which new hazardous waste facilities are located should be compensated for the adverse impacts caused by the siting of the facility.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:

- Compensation to the host community should be accorded for any new hazardous waste landfill or hazardous waste management facility requiring the approval of the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board.

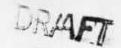
The Board is empowered to override the decisions of local government. This fact -- the loss of local control over its land -- distinguishes these hazardous waste facilities from other industrial activities that carry risks or impose costs and makes compensation appropriate in such cases.

- A negotiation/arbitration system should be established that encourages the community and the permit applicant to determine the amount and type of compensation which is appropriate to offset the anticipated harm.

Technical and financial assistance must be made available to the community to enable it to participate on an equal basis with the applicant through direct grants from the state, recouped from the applicant through application fees. A method to resolve impasses must also be developed.

TOPIC: CLEANUP OF INACTIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE SITES

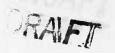
- 1. Issues The Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, otherwise known as the federal Superfund Act, created a mechanism for assessing and cleaning up abandoned hazardous waste sites posing environmental hazards. The Federal Superfund, however, is limited in scope and funding and is unable to deal with all sites requiring remedial action in Maryland.
- 2. Analysis During Task Force deliberations on this subject, legislation was developed for consideration by the Maryland legislature, with input from Task Force members, requiring DHMH to create a registry of hazardous waste sites requiring state action. Senate Bill 570, discussed earlier, was enacted. The most significant change in the original legislation endorsed by the Task



Force was the deletion of the taxing mechanism that was to provide the funds for the costs associated with identifying, assessing and, if necessary, remedying those sites that may contain hazardous waste. Governor Hughes endorsed the legislation in this form, stating that:

Senate Bill 570 requires the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to identify and prioritize sites requiring State remedial action. While it is premature to indicate a specific dollar amount, if Senate Bill 570 is enacted, and after consultation with Secretaries Adele Wilzack (Department of Health and Mental Hygiene) and Constance Lieder (Department of State Planning), I intend to propose as part of the Administration's capital program for FY 86 funding for the purposes authorized in the legislation.

- Policy Statement Cleanup of inactive hazardous waste sites should proceed rapidly and receive adequate state funding.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - Preliminary site assessments should be undertaken as rapidly as possible within the framework established by SB 570.
 - Funds must be provided for site cleanups. At the same time, the State should aggressively pursue responsible parties to pay the costs to clean up sites to which they have contributed wastes in the past.
 - The State should carefully coordinate their efforts with the federal Superfund cleanup program to maximize the use of federal funding in Maryland.
 - The MES should consider keeping the Hawkins Point Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility available for the disposal of site cleanup waste.



TOPIC: ALTERNATIVES TO LANDFILL

1. Issues - In 1984, the only State-owned hazardous waste landfill facility at Hawkins Point terminated acceptance of general hazardous waste. The reduction by industry in the amount of waste generated and competitive user rates at out-of-state landfills are contributing factors to the closure.

The Task Force recognizes that future events will most likely create a renewed demand for landfill capacity. the event new waste-producing industries locate in Maryland or previously unregulated wastes become classified as hazardous, the in-state demand for landfills will increase. Also, the scheduled inclusion of small generators in the hazardous waste regulatory program will result in an increased disposal demand. As other states which presently accept Maryland's waste apply more stringent regulations, increase facility user fees or close their landfills, as may occur in Pennsylvania, Maryland generators will seek economically feasible alternatives. Site cleanups will also contribute to the demand for landfills. To the extent that the foregoing events could require future in-state landfill capacity, and further because private landfills will continue to be subject to State regulation, the Task Force has determined that its recommendations on promoting alternatives to landfills are timely and appropriate for the Governor's consideration despite the State's planned termination of acceptance of general hazardous wastes at the Hawkins Point Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility.

2. Analysis - During the one-year period from August 1981 through July 1982, the total amount of hazardous waste landfilled in Maryland was 218,300 tons.

On the basis of preliminary manifest data for 1983, the State projects that the total amount of hazardous waste generated and disposed in Maryland in 1983 was substantially less than the amount generated and disposed over the prior one-year period. The factors contributing to this substantial reduction include the closure of several hazardous waste landfills and facilities, the increased export of wastes to out-of-state facilities, the delisting by the federal government of certain wastes formerly classified as hazardous, and the increased efficiency achieved by industry in reducing the volume of its

wastes. To a lesser extent, the economic recession in 1983 contributed to a decrease in market production generally.

The Maryland hazardous waste regulatory program adopts federal restrictions on the landfilling of certain wastes as follows:

- 1. No ignitable or reactive wastes unless:
 - a. treated, rendered, or mixed so no longer meets definition; or
 - b. (for ignitable) containerized and protected from conditions that might cause ignition.
- 2. No incompatible wastes.
- No bulk free liquids without adequate liner system.
- 4. No containerized free liquids unless:
 - a. free-standing liquids have been drained;
 - b. container is small;
 - c. container is designed to hold liquids; or
 - d. container is lab-pack.
- 5. Liquid PCBs must be incinerated and no land-filling liquids with PCB concentration greater than 500 ppm (40 CFR 264, 265, 761).

Maryland further requires the following:

- 1. Bulk liquids must be treated or stabilized, chemically or physically, so that free liquids are no longer present.
- No lab-pack exemption under containerized liquids [COMAR 10.51.05.14 (E-G)].

Unlike regulatory programs in other states, Maryland does not prohibit specific waste components or impose concentration limitations on wastes to be landfilled. Maryland has, however, legislatively adopted the Acceptance Policy of the Hazardous Waste Facilities Siting Board dated August 11, 1983, in the form of House Bill 1446 to be effective July 1, 1984.



After July 1, 1984, generators must satisfy the following two-part test before a controlled hazardous substance may be disposed of in Maryland:

- recovery possibilities have been considered; and
- 2. the controlled hazardous substance cannot be reasonably treated further to reduce the volume of or the hazard that the controlled hazardous substance poses to the environment.

The burden is on the generator to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (the "Department") that the above test has been satisfied. The statute lacks standards as to how generators may meet this burden, and regulations have not yet been promulgated.

In considering appropriate guidelines for the implementation of House Bill 1446, the Task Force identified those factors that contribute to a generator's disposal decisions and has developed guidelines based on those factors. Several factors considered and omitted were: i) the proximity of a particular treatment alternative to the generator; ii) the reliability of treatment alternatives; and iii) the reliability of a hazardous waste treatment facility. The Task Force has further restricted its recommendations to the land disposal of wastes, although House Bill 1446 addresses all methods of disposal.

The Task Force also reviewed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's advanced notice of proposed rulemaking for the purpose of delineating a process to determine at the national level what further restrictions are appropriate on land disposal of hazardous waste (49 FR 5854; Feb. 15, 1984). The approach is designed to systematically screen and rank those hazardous wastes which must be treated, recycled, stored or reduced, and those for which no alternative to landfilling exists.

- 3. Policy Statement It is in the best interests of the State to ensure that landfills are reserved for those wastes for which no other reasonable disposal alternative exists.
- 4. Recommendations: The Task Force makes the following recommendations:

In implementing HB 1446 the State should use the following guidelines:

Before any controlled hazardous substance is disposed of in a Maryland landfill, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene should certify that the waste containing such substance: i) has been considered for recovery; and ii) cannot be reasonably treated further.

- Recovery: To satisfy the first test with respect to recovery, the generator should, at a minimum, provide the Department with one or both of the following:
 - a. Evidence of listing of the subject waste on a recognized waste exchange for a period not less than 60 days; or
 - b. Certificate from commercial waste broker certifying that the subject waste is unusable.
- Treatment: To satisfy the second test with respect to treatment, the generator should provide the Department with evidence sufficient to prove that the subject waste cannot be reasonably treated further to reduce either the volume of or the hazard that the subject waste poses to the environment.

In evaluating the evidence submitted by a generator, the Department should apply the following guidelines in its determination to certify a waste:

- a. Reasonable treatment alternatives should be based on technological feasibility.
- b. A technology may be considered reasonable and feasible if it is consistent with the principles of sound engineering, and the technology is commercially available.

- c. Economics are only a significant factor if the treatment alternative would cause the generator to suffer severe economic hardship.
- d. A technology need not be used if the technology would results in more significant environmental harm than would result from the use of land disposal.

If an applicant for certification fails to meet its burden in showing that its waste is not recoverable or if a reasonable treatment alternative is determined by the Department to exist in accordance with the foregoing guidelines, the Department should be obligated to deny the application and the subject waste would not be allowed, until a certificate is issued, to be disposed of in a Maryland landfill.

- The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene should be required to monitor the U.S. EPA rulemaking regarding further restrictions on land disposal and utilize data on products generated by EPA to develop restrictions applicable to Maryland. The process should be expected to generate the following products:
 - 1. Screening criteria: To be applied in determining which wastes to restrict from landfills.
 - 2. Ranking of wastes.
 - 3. Alternatives: What treatment, recycling, waste reduction, and long-term storage technologies are feasible for the highest ranked wastes.
 - 4. Identification of restricted wastes.
 - 5. Effective dates for restriction.
 - 6. Specified pretreatment standards: Prescribed treatment for certain wastes before landfilling.

- 7. Regulatory impact analysis.
- 8. Fast-track prohibitions: Immediate prohibitions on substances such as dioxins and solvents recommended.

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TOPIC: PERMITTING, MONITORING, AND ENFORCEMENT

- 1. Issues Because of the integral part they play in proper waste management in Maryland, the nature and effectiveness of Maryland's permitting, monitoring, and enforcement programs are extremely important issues.
- 2. Analysis The Task Force consulted with members of the Permit and Enforcement Sections of the Office of Environmental Programs (OEP), members of the Attorney General's Office engaged in civil and criminal hazardous waste enforcement, and industry representatives. The Task Force has identified a number of concerns about the effectiveness of these important programs and their credibility with industry and the public.
 - Attracting and retaining qualified technical personnel. Uncompetitive starting salaries and the rigidity of the State Personnel Classification System often seem to result in the hiring of relatively inexperienced technical personnel and to encourage experienced staff to seek higher paying positions in private industry or with the federal government.
 - Training. Inadequate training budgets and a lack of systematic training programs appear to hamper technical staff in developing the knowledge and skills essential for them to deal both with the complex issues and regulations affecting large companies and with the complex issues and regulations affecting large companies and with small operators trying to wend their way through the regulatory maze.
 - Staffing and Resources. Numerous witnesses testified that a lack of resources and staff make it difficult to keep up with the volume of permit work and to comply with the requirements of §7-245 of the Health and Environmental Article requiring frequent monitoring of controlled hazardous substance facilities. Also, lack of staff precludes virtually any inspection of federal facilities in Maryland.
 - Laboratory Services. Although considerable improvements have been realized since its transfer from the Department of Natural Resources to the Department of

Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), the laboratory is subject to the conflicting demands and priorities of DHMH's numerous programs. Its diverse responsibilities frequently cause long delays in returning test results, and, at times, result in problems in establishing the requisite chain of custody for test samples in criminal cases. Again, low salaries appear to contribute to an unacceptable rate of staff turnover.

- Expert Witnesses. Both civil and criminal cases are sometimes impaired by the lack of in-house experts to advise on cases from their inception and to testify in court. Where in-house experts are available, their participation in enforcement actions often causes them to fall behind with their normal workloads.
- Hearing Officers. Because hearing officers are randomly assigned cases dealing with all Health Department programs, they often are not able to develop extensive technological expertise with respect to environmental cases. Such expertise might well be a factor in reducing the length of hearings and the time required to produce an opinion in any given case. In addition, when decisions on environmental cases are rendered by hearing examiners, they must be approved by OEP prior to implementation. This step can also add significant amounts of time to the entire process.
- Length of Negotiation and Litigation. Public credibility in OEP's enforcement efforts is frequently undermined by the months, and sometimes years, that enforcement matters or cases seem to drag on.
- Coordination with Local Health Departments. Greater coordination between OEP and local health departments appears essential both to keep citizens better informed and to avoid prejudicing enforcement actions.
- 3. Policy Statement Effective hazardous waste permitting, monitoring, and enforcement programs are essential for protection of the environment and public health in Maryland.
- 4. Recommendations: The Task Force makes the following recommendations:

- Although it is obvious that State salaries cannot be fully competitive with those in private industry, DHMH and the Department of Personnel should promptly review the salary and personnel classifications of OEP's technical staff and DHMH's laboratory personnel to ensure that they are adequate to attract and retain the experienced personnel who are essential to an effective hazardous waste program.
- OEP should expand training programs for its technical staff to enable them to obtain the state-of-the-art knowledge they must have to deal effectively with industry, both large and small.
- An in-depth non-governmental review should be made to determine whether OEP is presently carrying out its responsibilities in the most efficient and effective manner, and whether additional staff and/or resources are required to enable OEP to fulfill those responsibilities.

Such a review should include consideration as to whether the hazardous waste facility inspection schedule mandated by Section 7-245 is excessive, or is reasonably necessary to protect public health and safety. If it is excessive, DHMH should recommend a change in the statute during the next legislative session. If it is essential, the State should provide adequate resources to enable the mandated frequency of State inspections. Leaving such a statute on the books, while ignoring it in practice, seriously undermines public confidence in law enforcement.

- OEP should determine whether additional resources are necessary to adequately inspect federal facilities in the State.
- Consideration should be given to fully staffing and equipping the Hazardous Waste Section of the Division of Environmental Chemistry, and of having it report to the Office of Environmental Programs, or doing only the work of WAS in order to ensure the requisite priority for hazardous waste enforcement efforts.
- DHMH and OEP should assure the availability of adequate funding to hire outside experts to consult on and/or testify in hazardous waste enforcement matters, or cases, when required.

OEP should also review its staffing to determine whether it would be more, or less, cost effective to add such experts to its regular staff.

The State should review the salary structure and consider assigning two or three hearing officers to hear only environmental cases, and recommend legislation which would make the decisions of such officers final in the Department.

This could eliminate some of the delay in handling administrative cases, and would eliminate the requirement that OEP must approve of such decisions prior to their implementation. OEP would still have the right to appeal just as any other participant.



- Greater effort should be made by the Assistant Secretary of OEP to review the status of negotiations and to pursue enforcement methods as soon as it is clear that an industry is no longer negotiating with the State in good faith.
- OEP should enhance its efforts to keep local health departments advised of important developments and to ensure that they do not give inconsistent advice to industry that could undermine OEP's enforcement efforts.



TOPIC: COVERAGE OF THE HAZARDOUS WASTE SYSTEM

- 1. Issues Information provided to the Task Force indicates that significant quantities of wastes that may pose threats to human health and the environment are not currently regulated as hazardous waste.
- Analysis The Task Force reviewed the coverage of the hazardous waste regulatory program and met with representatives of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the State of Maryland, and industry. The Office of Technology Assessment estimated in 1983 that the federal regulatory system covered only 40 million tons out of a total of 255 to 275 million tons recognized as hazardous by state programs. The Task Force did not receive information on the quantities of "industrial" wastes generated in Maryland that are not subject to the State regulatory system. Because the Maryland system in its coverage parallels, with certain exceptions, the federal system, however, the Task Force is concerned with the scope of the State's hazardous waste program.

The Task Force felt that the EP toxicity test, limited to only a handful of inorganic materials, did not encompass the universe of toxic wastes deserving regulation. The U.S. EPA is currently taking steps to broaden the tests for toxicity in different ways.

The Task Force briefly considered the federal and state procedures for "delisting" hazardous wastes. Two concerns surfaced: first, the accuracy of delisting submissions, and second, with small generators coming into the system, the ability of persons with limited financial resources to determine whether their wastes should properly be considered hazardous.

- 3. Policy Statement The State should take all steps necessary to determine that the wastes generated and disposed of in Maryland do not present threats to the citizens or environment of the State.
- 4. Recommendations -
 - The State should encourage EPA to press forward in efforts to broaden the tests for toxicity.



- The State should have the resources and analytical capabilities to determine whether specific wastes generated and disposed of in Maryland pose hazards and warrant inclusion in Maryland's regulatory program.
- The government entity responsible for considering delisting petitions, whether state or federal, should have the resources to do spot checks of the waste in question to verify the accuracy of the submission.



TOPIC: MANAGEMENT OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES

- 1. Issues Hazardous wastes generated in households are exempt from state or federal regulation. These wastes consist of spent or unused portions of a wide variety of products. Paints, paint thinner, pesticides, herbicides, drain cleaners, laundry bleach, and anti-freeze are only a few of the products containing hazardous chemicals that are commonly found in households. Sooner or later, most households pour the spent or unused portions of these products down the drain or dump them in the trash. Those practices may cause severe environmental problems.
- 2. Analysis The Task Force has reviewed the experience of other states and localities in providing proper handling and management of hazardous wastes generated in households. The Task Force recommends that Maryland develop a program to encourage householders to bring their wastes to centralized collection points and to ensure that the collected wastes are properly disposed of.

This program is apt to be expensive, though. Florida has budgeted \$400,000 per year for its "amnesty" program. If, however, each household generates ten gallons of hazardous waste a year and these wastes are improperly disposed, then this money would be a modest investment in protecting Maryland's environment.

- 3. Policy Statement Management of household hazardous waste would further advance the protection of Maryland's environment.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force recommends that a program to manage household hazardous waste be developed and include the following components:
 - Intensive public education. The experience in other states demonstrates the importance of public education. The State should work with various civic and environmental groups to spread the word.
 - Two collection days should be sponsored in each county in the first year of operation. These should be preceded by intensive advertising and education efforts.

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- The State should provide technical services at the collection points and assume all responsibility for the wastes delivered to them.

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IV. Improved Communication and Public Participation

TOPIC: REGULATORY INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY

- 1. Issues The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene regulates a large number of hazardous waste generators, transporters, and treatment, storage, disposal facilities (TSDF) and accumulates extensive information on regulation. It is sometimes difficult for citizens to obtain easy access to this information and to easily understand the form of presentation. The Task Force examined the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Information System and made several observations.
 - a. The files of the Office of Environmental Program's (OEP) Waste Management Administration (WAS) comprise the key data source of the State's hazardous waste program.
 - b. The Waste Management Administration's filing system, which is comprised of six basic hazardous waste files, is generally in good working order.
 - c. Citizen requests for information are directed at a variety of people within the OEP, but there is currently no Public Participation Coordinator within the WAS.
 - d. There is no standard informational packet or publication on OEP's filing system available for the general public.
 - e. Consistency and coordination within the various filing systems and within the various branches of the OEP is not good and not easily understood by citizens.
 - f. There are few comprehensive, long-term information storage systems and most records are not a part of those systems.
 - g. There are relatively few logged-in citizen requests for information from the files of the WAS.

- h. OEP's credibility is frequently undermined because citizens experience considerable difficulty in getting information about public hearings, responses to their comments or permit applications, decisions in administrative cases, and the like.
- 2. Analysis The Task Force reviewed the files of the Office of Environmental Programs to assess the system and determine the number of citizen information requests. The filing system of four other states' waste management branches were examined for their organization and citizen access. It was determined that there is no one "best" filing system. Each state developed a system based on its own needs the number of permitted facilities and the previous system's organization.
- 3. Policy Statement Easy and immediate access to regulatory information on hazardous waste management and regulation is important for full citizen participation in a hazardous waste management system.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - The position of Public Participation Coordinator for the Waste Management Administration should be created and filled by a person with technical understanding of hazardous waste management but also one having the ability to communicate well with the public.

A major responsibility would include assisting citizens in obtaining information from the WAS files. The Coordinator must be prepared to explain the State's permitting and enforcement processes to citizens frustrated by what they perceive to be OEP's "inaction" on a particular incident or company.

 A publication entitled "Understanding OEP's Files" should be prepared and made available to the general public.

The Coordinator should assist in the preparation of "Understanding OEP's Files". The publication should clearly and simply present the nature and organization of the various files and the available information. Important administrative points should be covered such as:

- the importance of making an appointment to review OEP's files;
- an explanation of enforcement procedures;
- a discussion of why certain items may be missing with respect to planned enforcement actions and pending litigation; and
- the role of the OEP Inspectors, Project Managers, and Project Engineers in understanding a facility's situation.

This would be a compansion to existing and forthcoming OEP public affairs documents, such as:

- "Numbers to Know"
- "Permits to Protect Air, Land, Water, and Community Health"
- "What is OEP?"
- A formal log-in procedure should be used for all information requests from the WAS files.

Requests for information by both outsiders and OEP staff should be made through and recorded by the WAS Public Participation Coordinator, ensuring that the location of a file is always known.

- The utilization of existing in-house personnel for improving intrafile access and coordination should be considered.

The position descriptions of presently employed file clerks in the WAS should be reviewed and modified to incorporate file access control, indexing, coding, and cross-referencing duties. This review should take place in conjunction with the development of the Public Participation Coordinator.

A toll-free telephone number should be installed and publicized.

Citizens from all over the State should have access to the WAS Public Participation Coordinator.

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- Efforts to improve the information management system at OEP should build upon existing systems and plans.

It is important that OEP coordinate any computer expansion among the various administrations to ensure that systems will be compatible. The expected increased data load on the WAS accentuates the need for upgrading the present filing system. The staff of OEP should gradually revise all forms used to collect information on facilities in order to promote simple, clear data collection that is less open to subjective interpretation.

- OEP should make greater efforts to publicize public hearings through newspapers of general circulation, libraries, etc. It should write to individuals who have expressed an interest in a particular matter when it renders a decision and should respond to those citizens who trouble themselves to comment on permit applications.

TOPIC: INDUSTRY-COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

- 1. Issues There is no direct communication, in the form of a citizen committee or an industry appointee for public participation, between a host community and a specific facility. Substantive dialogue between these two parties is critical to fostering a better understanding of key community concerns and problems.
- 2. Analysis The Task Force examined the existing approaches to establishing industry-community committees and made several observations:
 - a. There is no clear guidance as to when a formal communication committee should be established.
 - b. There is no established public participation program for an industry seeking an environmental permit to follow.
 - c. There are no guidelines as to the ideal committee formation, size, composition, and leadership.



- d. The question of using a neutral third-party to facilitate discussions must be addressed.
- e. There is no clear guidance on the functions a committee should serve.
- f. There is no clear guidance on the ground rules by which a committee will operate.
- g. There is no guidance on the involvement of the State in the programs.

The communication committee was seen by the Task Force as a valuable tool in educating and working out problems between industry and the community, but concern was expressed about establishing a formal committee for every facility.

- 3. Policy Statement Direct communication between the citizens and industries of a community involving environmental permits within that community is in the best interests of the community.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - A flexible approach should be taken in establishing communication committees.

It is not necessary for every facility to have a formal committee.

- The industry seeking any permit from OEP should appoint a Public Participation Coordinator during the life of the facility.

The Coordinator would be responsible for maintaining contact with the community, periodically meeting with them, explaining company policies to them, answering their questions, and preparing an annual report of all such activities to be kept on file by the firm and then sent to OEP in connection with the next permit renewal.



- If a breakdown in communication between the Public Participation Coordinator and the community ensues, a formal citizen committee should be established.

The committee should have an odd number of members and be no larger than fifteen (15). The chief elected official of the community would be in the best position to form such a committee. His/her leadership would give the committee political legitimacy in the community. A neutral third-party could be appointed to facilitate discussions. The committee should be sure to include representatives of those citizens most concerned about a hazardous waste facility. There should be representatives from the community's various socioeconomic levels, ethnic groups, and geographical areas.

- A well-organized and productive committee could:
- help avoid and/or resolve conflicts between a facility operator and nearby residents;
 - help explain complex technical issues and discuss alternatives;
 - serve as a communication link with other groups and organizations;
 - review and make recommendations to decision-making organizations such as the OEP; and
 - assist in educating the general public about the operation of a facility.
- The committee should establish ground rules for operation, including procedures pertinent to:
 - how to handle sensitive business information;
 - how to handle committee members' access to the facility;



- how to respond to information requests by the committee;
- how to deal with the press;
- how the committee will reach decisions; and
- what basic protocols will be established.

TOPIC: PUBLIC EDUCATION ON HAZARDOUS WASTE ISSUES

- 1. Issues Citizens often feel helpless in dealing with hazardous waste issues for a number of reasons including the difficulty in obtaining relevant information, the citizens' perception that public officials do not really care about their concerns, and the lack of information outreach and public education programs in the State. The Task Force examined the various approaches for providing public education on hazardous waste issues and made several observations:
 - a. There is no central information service in Maryland for citizen access to information on all aspects of the management and disposal of hazardous waste.
 - b. There is no reference directory available to the general public that lists individuals, organizations, and general information on the various aspects of hazardous waste management in Maryland.
 - c. There is a dearth of education programs and curriculum development on hazardous waste issues in the Maryland school system.
 - d. The utilization of mass media in educating and informing the general public has not been pursued.
 - e. There is little communication between State agencies and the University of Maryland on public and small quantity generator education needs.
 - f. Small quantity generators have a limited understanding of their place in the hazardous waste system and the applicable regulations.

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- 2. Analysis The Task Force heard from a variety of experts in the public education field on the topics of curriculum development and training and engineering development. These meetings resulted in a raised awareness among public educators of the array of problems related to hazardous waste management and the need for educating both the general public and the hazardous waste generators. Several approaches for information outreach and public education were examined by the Task Force, and information packets, exhibits, seminars, audio-visual presentations, and computer simulation activities were seen as valuable media of communication and education.
- 3. Policy Statement The general public's understanding of hazardous waste issues is necessary for the improvement and facilitation of overall hazardous waste management.
- 4. Recommendations The Task Force makes the following recommendations:
 - A Central Information Service for citizen access to information on hazardous waste management and disposal in Maryland should be established.

Specific information on hazardous wastes and on the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's policies and interpretations of the regulations needs to be readily available to any interested party in a central location. A permanent Public Participation Coordinator in the Waste Management Administration should be available to assist and answer all citizen requests for information. There should be a widely publicized toll-free telephone number to the Public Participation Coordinator.

- There should be a Directory containing information and contacts for various aspects of hazardous waste management in Maryland.

A Speakers Bureau Directory containing information from individuals and organizations thought to be knowledgeable about various aspects of hazardous waste management will soon be finished and distributed to those parties included, members of the Task Force, and selected public officials. This Directory should also be made available to the general public and the school system.

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Hazardous waste management education material needs to be developed and infused in the State's school system curricula.

The addition of hazardous waste management curriculum material in the school system should be done by infusing it into the existing structure, particularly areas such as chemistry, earth sciences, home economics, and social studies. The curriculum packet should include good audio-visual items and a well prepared discussion guide as well as:

- activity sheets which could include (a) plant tours, such as Industrial Museum, World Trade Center, Maryland Science Center, Poison Control Center, and (b) science fair projects.
- vocabulary glossary
- reference lists
- student projects which could include (a) crossword puzzles, (b) household chemical search with the use of Mr. "Yuk" stickers, (c) writing up for parents proper storage and handling procedures, and (d) product flow diagram of parent's or relative's work place.
- flow sheet diagrams raw material to final/product and wastes for typical local industries.
- use of a Hazardous Waste/Environmental Simulator as a project.

The curriculum should become a permanent part of the system with a continuing source of funding for teachers and materials.

The development of a Hazardous Waste/Environmental computer simulator, based on a U.S.
Department of Energy model, that illustrates a
cause and effect relationship between hazardous
wastes and the environment should be included
in the Maryland hazardous waste curriculum
development.

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The simulator is used in a group educational environment and has proven to be effective with all age groups as an educational tool. The simulator could be used throughout the Maryland school system as an aid in educating Maryland's future policy makers about the issues surrounding hazardous wastes.

Information packets aimed at the general audience that contain information on hazardous waste issues should be prepared and widely distributed.

Information packets which are currently being prepared will be sent to all of the county public school systems, to some private schools in Maryland, and to a selection of environmental and community groups. If the packets are well received, a mechanism that ensures continual distribution of popular publications to the above organizations and other interested groups should be established.

An audio-visual presentation composed of three or four specific hazardous waste topics should be developed and given statewide exposure.

By utilizing a combination of several thirtysecond Public Service Announcements and a traveling exhibit for displays at malls and fairs, a very large portion of the Maryland public could be reached and become better informed about these issues. Some good topics for this presentation would be:

- the degree of hazard of various chemicals;
- general information on current regulations and a number to call (Hot Line) for alleged violations;
- hazardous waste materials in the home; and
- some good examples of properly handled waste.

This information should be developed with the homeowner and small quantity generator as the prime target audiences.



An Industrial Waste Handlers Exhibit should be developed for the Baltimore Industrial Show held each November.

Seminars should be held concurrently with emphasis on answering questions pertinent to small quantity generators. Upon approval of the Governor, the show/seminar should become an established series.

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APPENDIX A

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON HAZARDOUS WASTE INITIATIVES

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August 1984

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